

MINUTES

—OF THE—

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Harmony Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

THOMASTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH.

LEAKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

October 22, 23 and 25, A. D. 1886.

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OFFICERS.

W. P. DORRELL, Moderator.

J. P. HICKMAN, Clerk and Treasurer.



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CANTON, MISS.
AMERICAN CITIZEN PRINT,
1886.

Committees Appointed.

Missions.—J. C. Denson, B. F. Cotton, J. D. Carroll.

Education.—Geo. Yeager, J. P. Spinks, J. A. Thomas,

Finance.—J. W. Miles, J. R. Wales, J. M. Owen.

Sabbath Schools.—E. T. Barnett, W. I. Phillips, J. H. Estes

Publications. H. Collier, James Civils, J. R. Phillips,

Temperance—R. E. Melvin, T. G. Ward, John Pool.

Queries and Requests—J. M. Owen, W. R. Eastwood, A. B. Ellington.

Nominations.—T. B. Blalock, W. J. Wallace, Robert Mitchell.

Obituaries.—R. G. Barrett, J. F. Gray, J. Barnett.

State of Religion.—W. S. Cockroft, Z. Stewart, W. J. Mooney.

Religious Exercise.—W. S. Cockroft, Z. Stewart, pastor and deacons of this church.

MINUTES

OF THE

Harmony & Baptist Association.

THOMASTOWN, Oct. 22, 1886.

THE Harmony Baptist Association met this day in her thirty-seventh annual session with the Baptist church at Thomastown. The moderator not being present, Elder R. G. Barrett was chosen moderator, and Bro. J. P. Spinks, clerk pro tem. The moderator read the 17th chapter of John's Gospel and sung "Brethren, we have met to worship." Prayer was offered by Elder R. E. Melvin. Brethren Elder Wm. McMurtry and Bro. J. F. Kernop were appointed reading clerks, and letters from nineteen churches were read and delegates names enrolled. The body then organized permanently by electing W. P. Dorrell moderator and J. P. Hickman clerk and treasurer. Elder W. S. Rushing, the appointee of the association, not being present, on motion that Elder R. E. Melvin preach the introductory sermon to-night at 7 o'clock. The body then took a recess for dinner.

AFTERNOON 1ST DAY.

Two o'clock p. m.—The body assembled in the house, and after singing "Grace 'tis a Charming Thing," prayer was of-

ferred by E. T. Barnett. Petitionary letters were then called for, when one was presented from Standing Pine, received and delegates names enrolled. Correspondence called for when the brethren from the various bodies with which we correspond presented themselves and were welcomed to seats as follows: Central association, Elders J. B. Gambrell and Wm. McMurray; Mt. Olive association, J. M. Pearson, J. T. Miles; Choctaw association, D. H. Barrett.

Elder J. B. Gambrell was received as representative of the State Convention Board.

Returned correspondence as follows:

Kosciusko association, R. G. Barrett, J. H. Davis, A. B. Ellington and W. P. Dorrell. Yazoo association, R. G. Barrett. Central association, J. R. Wales, W. J. Wallace and J. P. Hickman. Mt. Pisga association, E. T. Barnett. Springfield association, G. W. Whorton, J. M. Owen. Mt. Olive association, Henry Collier, Dr. J. C. Denson, T. E. Morris. E. T. Barnett, and J. M. Owen. Choctaw association, R. G. Barrett, J. P. Spinks, J. H. Davis, J. F. Kernop and T. G. Ward.

State convention: W. I. Phillips, G. W. Goolsby, W. J. Miles, George Yeager, A. B. Ellington, J. P. Spinks, J. H. Davis, W. P. Dorrell and J. R. Wales.

The committee on Religious Exercises was now appointed consisting of W. S. Cockroft, Z. Stewart, with pastor and deacons of this church.

On motion the appointment of committees be postponed until to-night. The body then adjourned to meet to-night at 7 o'clock to hear the introductory sermon by Elder R. E. Melvin.

Seven o'clock p. m.—The introductory sermon was preached by Elder R. E. Melvin, from Rev. 2 chap. 1st to 5th verse, to an attentive congregation, and we trust with good effect. Subject: "A good church with one fault."

SECOND DAY.

Saturday 23, 8:30 o'clock, a. m.—The body assembled in the house and after singing hymn "Come ye that love the Lord." Prayer was offered by Elder J. B. Gambrell. Minutes of yesterday read and approved. Role of delegates called and ab-

senteers marked. Roll of churches called for the benefit of those not represented yesterday, when a letter from Harmony church was handed in, read, and delegates names enrolled.

Report of committees called for.

THE committee on Religious Exercises, reported that Elder Wm. McMurray preach Saturday at 11 o'clock a. m., Elder J. C. Denson 7 o'clock p. m. Elder E. T. Barnett conduct prayer meeting Sabbath at 10 o'clock a. m., Elder J. B. Gambrell at 11 o'clock a. m., and Elder J. M. Pearson at 2 o'clock p. m. The report on Missions was deferred and set for 3 o'clock p. m. The committee on Sabbath schools reported.

Report on Sabbath Schools.

That the Bible is the only text book among Christians and, as the object of the Sabbath school is to teach this book, therefore, in order that its good seed may find a lodgment in the hearts at least of the young and rising generation, and bring forth fruit to the glory of God. We, therefore, finding a great deficiency and lack of interest in this work in the Harmony association, we therefore recommend that the pastors and deacons urge the great importance of Sabbath schools in our midst. We furthermore recommend that each Sabbath school in our midst use Baptist literature

E. T. BARNETT, Chairman.
W. J. PHILLIPS, } Com.
B. H. ESTES, }

The Committee on Temperance reported as follows:

Report on Temperance.

The education of the Public mind to a true view of the enormity of the liquor business, required the labor, the experience, the wisdom and faith and patience of ages. Time was

when alcoholic stimulants were by honest Christian men regarded among the "good creatures of God" to be received with thanksgiving; and there are some still living who remember that time. But when the delusion was dispelled then came the question, "what shall we do with it?" Years of labor were expended in showing up the business as only a source of unmitigated evil without one redeeming feature; but how get clear of it? Moral suasion was resorted to and relied on for years, but the evil still increased; high license was tried, but in vain; every expedient of appeal to the honor or conscience of men interested in the traffic, whether as dealers or drinkers has proved but as throwing grass in the fable; men and women all over the land have decided that we have been throwing grass long enough, and now we will show what virtue there is in stones. The only escape from the "curse of wine" is, invoke the strong arm of law place, the business side by side with the slave trade, and legislate it out of existence.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. MELVIN, Chairman,

T. G. WARD, { Com.

J. C. POOL, }

While the report was being discussed, the hour for preaching arrived. On motion further discussion was postponed until 2 o'clock p. m.

The delegates from Mt. Zion (Choctaw) church, presented themselves—letter read and received and delegates names enrolled. On motion the body took a recess until 2 o'clock. At 11 o'clock a. m., Elder Wm. McMurtray preached to a large and attentive congregation from Rom. 1st chap. and 15th verse. Two o'clock p. m. the body assembled in the house after singing "There is a fountain filled with blood." Prayer was offered by Bro. W. S. Cockcroft, the body was announced ready for business; when Bro. C. C. Smith was received as corresponding messenger from the Springfield association, and Bro. G. W. Burnett from the Mt. Charity (colored) association. Correspondence was returned as follows: Mt. Charity (colored) association, R. G. Barrett, G. W. Whorton, J. H. Davis and W. J. Phillips.

The consideration of the temperance question was then resumed, ably discussed and adopted.

THE committee Missions reported as follows: Christian missions are of God. John the Baptist was a man sent from God, and a missionary is one sent. Jesus was heaven's great missionary to a lost world. While on earth he chose and sent out men to teach the things concerning the Kingdom. Ascending on high he gave the commandment to "go preach the Gospel to every creature, saying 'I am with you.'" To go is to obey Jesus. To remain home is to disobey Jesus. To oppose Missions is to oppose Christ; and to become anti-Christ to that extent. To refuse to go is to forfeit the divine presence in the churches, for the promise is to be with us in going and not in staying. The divisions of the field into Associational, State, Indian, foreign and such like are for convenience merely. All missions rest on the same divine authority. A good work is going on in all these departments. Last year there were forty-two missionaries under the appointment of the convention board. During the last quarter, 373 persons were baptized in connection with their labors, and near 100 more added to the church by letter and restoration. The foreign fields are constantly opening and are very fruitful.

The foreign board, at Richmond asks Mississippi to raise \$8,000 for that work this year, and we believe it is not too much for the 70,000 Baptists of the State to raise. Home missions or missions in all the Southern States is worthy of our support. And we mention with emphasis Indian missions in our midst. Contributions to State, Foreign and Home missions should be sent to B. W. Griffith, treasurer of the convention board, Jackson, Miss., and money for Indian missions to N. L. Clark, Decatur, Miss. Brethren, the glory of God among men, the salvation of souls and the perpetuity and growth of our church is clear, and that we take a hand in the spread of the Gospel. The word of the Lord exhorts us to sow beside all waters. Let us see to it that every church comes up to the help of the Lord against the powers of darkness.

Dr. J. C. DENSON, Chairman.
B. F. COTTON, { Com.
J. D. CARROLL, }

Discussed and adopted. The body then adjourned until Monday Monday at 9 o'clock.

Sabbath exercises, 10 o'clock a. m. Prayer meeting conducted by Bro. E. T. Barnett at 11 o'clock a. m. Elder J. B. Gam-

brell preached to a large and attentive congregation from 1st Cor. 11 chap. and 2nd verse. Theme, Fidelity to Christ; at the conclusion of which there was a collection of \$29 in cash taken for State missions. Two o'clock p. m., Elder J. M. Pearson preached from 41st psalm and 4th verse.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 9:00 O'CLOCK A. M.

The body assembled in the house; after singing hymn "Amazing Grace," Bro. W. S. Cockroft offered prayer, and business was resumed. Minutes of Saturday read and approved. Reports of committees called for. Report of committee on nominations. Your committee on nominations recommend that the executive board for the next year consist of the ordained ministers of this association, ex-officio and the following laymen:

T. G. Ward, J. A. Thomas, W. R. Eastwood, James Civils, J. R. Wales, R. J. Bell, J. M. Owen, Wm. Baker, G. W. Whorton, W. R. Lacy, J. R. Trontman, A. M. Barnett, J. A. Langston, J. F. Gray, J. C. Pool, J. M. Mooney, J. D. Carroll, G. W. Goolshy, E. T. Gober, T. J. Moore, Henry Collier, W. M. McDaniel, Tom Anderson, and S. J. Denson, Jr.; also that each church appoint one in addition to the above, making two laymen from each church members of the board.

We nominate Elder W. P. Dorrell to preach the next introductory sermon, and Elder R. GaBarrett his alternate.

T. B. BLALOCK, Chairman.

On motion the body then appointed the next meeting of the executive board, which resulted in the selection of Stump Bridge as the place and Friday before fifth Sabbath in January, 1887, at 10 o'clock a. m. as the time.

THE committee on Ministerial Education and Mississippi College, reported as follows:

We feel that too much stress cannot be placed on this benevolent work. Daily the necessity is becoming more apparent. Among the reasons for that necessity are the following:

1st. It does not suffice for us to say to a young man who feels that necessity is laid upon him to preach the Gospel, Be ye fed and be ye clothed when we give him not the things needful thereunto, yet knowing the whiteness of the harvest and

the laborers are few, and the encroachment of Romanism and Infidelity and the progress of Literature among the people, we can but urge upon the churches and Association the necessity of meeting this with an educated ministry.

2nd. We would not in any manner undervalue the labors of our brethren in the ministry, who have not enjoyed the means of a liberal education. Many of them are doing noble and effective work for Christ, but consecration and culture are the great and imperative need of the ministry.

We would recommend the Mississippi college to this association as worthy of her support, and would urge the pastors to present her claims and insist on them coming to her relief.

GEORGE YEAGER, Chairman.

Discussed and adopted.

On motion: After this all speeches be limited to five minutes.

THE committee on Obituaries reported as follows:

Since our last session many of our members have died. Dear brethren may we remember that we too must go, but while we mourn our loss, we trust that it is their eternal gain.

Adopted.

R. G. BARRETT, Chairman.

J. W. BARNETT, } Com.

J. F. GRAY, }

THE committee on State of Religion reported as follows:

Beulah.—In good working order.

Canaan.—At peace with one another.

Center Hill.—Revived with some additions.

Damascus.—Not represented.

Good Hope (Leake).—In a prosperous condition.

Good Hope (Madison).—In a working condition.

Jerusalem.—In a cold state and desirous of your prayers.

Landmark.—Not represented.

Mars Hill.—We are at peace among ourselves.

Mount Carmel.—Peace and harmony prevails.

Mount Zion.—In a prosperous condition.

New Hope.—Spiritually strengthened.

Mount Zion (Choctaw).—In a working condition.

New Providence.—Peace and harmony prevails.

New Salem.—In a cold condition, and asks the prayers of the body.

Old Rocky Point.—In a cold condition.

Pleasant Hill.—Not represented.

Rocky Point.—Peace and harmony prevails.

Salem.—In a prosperous condition.

Stump Bridge.—The Lord has been with and blessed us abundantly.

Thomastown.—Revived with some additions.

Camden.—Good foundation work has been done.

Harmony.—Much revived and good feeling prevails.

Hopewell.—In our infancy; pray for us.

Standing Pine.—In a prosperous condition.

Adopted.

W. S. COCKROFT, Chairman.

On motion, that we now engage in prayer for those churches reported in a cold condition, and that we recommend to them to assemble themselves and pray that the joys of the Lord's salvation may be restored unto them.

Prayer by Elder J. B. Gambrell.

THE committee on finance reported as follows: We, your committee find paid in during the associational year of 1885-86:

Associational purposes.....	\$ 61 10
" missions	7 85
Foreign "	31 20
Home "	18 80
State "	103 57½
Indian "	2 50
Ministerial education.....	23 12½

Other purposes	\$446 00
Mt. Charity (colored) association.....	50
Total	<u>\$694 65</u>
To amount brought forward.....	\$694 65
Received from Thomastown church, of Mississippi	25
Collected on Sabbath for State Missions.....	29 00
" " Monday, Indian Missions.....	10 25
Total for all purposes.....	<u>\$734 15</u>

W. J. MILES, Chairman,
J. R. WALES, } Com.
J. M. OWENS. }

Adopted.

NOTE.—There has been most of the money reported by the churches for all purposes paid in during the year to the convention board through its agents, and the clerks of the churches failed to make a showing of what has been thus paid in and what was sent up to the association in cash. Therefore the Finance committee could not make the division, nor can the clerk. I therefore take out the associational fund, and turn all the rest over to the convention board to be disbursed by them according to their scale of disbursing.

CLERK.

On motion the clerk was instructed to make a foot note, explanatory of the finance of this association.

THE committee on Publications reported as follows:

Your committee would first urge the importance of the reading and studying of the Scriptures, the better to enable us to judge of the correctness of the various periodicals of the day. We are a progressive people; hence, we should procure all the helps that we can to usefulness in this life. We would recommend the Baptist Record, Southern Baptist, Tennessee Baptist, Ford's Christian Repository—all of which, if read, will be of great help to us in the furtherance of Christ's Kingdom upon earth.

HENRY COLLIER, Chairman.
J. K. PHILLIPS, } Com.
J. B. CIVILS }

Discussed and adopted.

THE committee on Queries and Requests reported as follows:

We, your committee, find three churches asking for the next session of this body, viz: Good Hope, Madison; Beulah and Good Hope Leake. We recommend that the next session be held with Good Hope, Leake.

J. M. OWEN, Chairman.

Adopted.

On motion that we change the day of our meeting from Friday to Saturday before fourth Sabbath in October.

Carried.

The Executive Board made its annual report, which was adopted.

Report of Executive Board of the Harmony Association for the Year 1886.

We would respectfully report that we have held four meetings, as follows:

Camden, fifth Sabbath in November, 1885.

Canaan, fifth Sabbath in May, 1886.

New Providence, fifth Sabbath in August, 1886.

Thomastown, fourth Sabbath in October, at the association.

At our first meeting we inquired after the destitutions, and appointed Elder R. G. Barrett to supply a point at Shrock's chapel, and W. P. Dorrell to supply a point in the fork of Pearl River and Lobutchu, at the Phillips school house, and agreed to give them \$1.50 per day for services actually rendered. At the meeting of the Board at Canaan, Bro. Barrett tendered his resignation as missionary, which was accepted. Bro. E. T. Dendy made a report of eighteen days work done at Trickman which resulted in the organization of a church, and after due deliberation the Board recognized the work done as mission work and allowed him pay for the same. Our meetings in the main have been well attended, and subjects of interest have

been discussed, and we think good has resulted, and would recommend a continuation of the same line of work.

Summary of work done by our missionaries:

Elder E. T. Dendy, 18 days work at \$1.50 per day \$27 00
Elder W. P. Dorrell, 14 " " 1.50 " 21 00

Total for 32 days work at \$1.50 per day \$48 00

R. G. BARRETT, Moderator, pro tem.

W. R. STEWART, Clerk, pro tem.

Treasurer's Report, 1886.

A. J. Cockroft, Treasurer, Harmony Association for 1886.

To amount received for State missions.....	\$ 10 40
" " " Indian "	10 00
" " " Foreign "	12 15
" " " Associational "	39 80
" " " Associational purposes.....	66 80
" Balance on hand.....	3 00
Total	\$142 15

CREDITS.

To amount paid Elder J. B. Gambrell, State missionary.....	\$ 10 40
" " " Foreign "	12 15
" " " Clerks fees.....	15 00
" " " Missionary work.....	36 00
" " " W. S. Rushing, Indian missions.....	10 00
" " " Printing and mailing minutes.....	20 00
" " " Elder E. T. Dendy mission work.....	17 00
" " " Elder E. T. Dendy mission work.....	15 00
" " " W. P. Dorrell, mission work.....	6 60
" Balance on hand paid to finance committee.....	
Total	\$142 15

Resolved, That fifteen dollars be allowed the clerk and treasurer for his services, and that he draw the same from the treasury. Carried.

Resolved, That the thanks of this association be, and are hereby tendered this church community, for the kind and hospitable way in which they have entertained it. Carried.

After singing, "How Firm a Foundation," and extending the parting hand, the association adjourned to meet with the Good Hope church, Leake county, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in October, 1887, at 10 o'clock a. m.

W. P. DORRELL, Moderator.

J. P. HICKMAN, Clerk and Treasurer.

STATISTICAL TABLE---1886,

CHURCHES.	POST-OFFICE.	DELEGATES.	ORDAINED MIN- ISTERS.	POST-OFFICE.	Asso'nal Missions	Total in Fellowship	No Minutes Wanted	Day of Meeting	Baptized	Restored.	Received by letter	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Dead	Associational boxes	State Missions	Foreign Missions	Home Missions	Indian Missions
Beulah	Paloma	J. H. Dickens, J. R. Lowe	R. E. Melvin	Camden	\$ 2.50	31	15	24	1			21	12	18	2.50	5.50			
Camden	Camden	R. E. Melvin, J. M. Owen	A. B. Ellington	Kirkwood		31	12	4	1			21	21	21	2.50	7.00	5.50		
Canaan	Kirkwood	A. B. Ellington, Z. Stewart	A. B. Ellington	Kirkwood		31	15	1	1			21	21	21	2.50	5.50	1.00		
Carthage	Conway	J. F. Biggitt, T. J. Moore	J. F. Biggitt	Carthage	2.00	88	10	1	1			1	1	1	4.00	10.80			
Center Hill	Good Hope	Cockroft, Collier, Langford	T. E. Morris	Good Hope	1.00	97	32	4	1			1	1	1	3.00				
Good Hope (L)	Good Hope	Barrett, Mitchell, cotton	R. G. Barrett	Couparie City	1.65	82	15	3	1			1	1	1	2.50		1.25		
Good Hope (M)	Couparie City	G. W. Whorton, Henry Jones	T. E. Morris	Couparie City		9	6	1	1			1	1	1	2.50				
Harmony	Edinburgh	Wm. Baker, Sexton, James	Elder Jack	Carthage		42	12	1	4			24	24	24	1.50				
Hopewell	Carthage	J. C. Denison, S. J. Denison, Jr	S. J. Denison	Carthage	74	23	3	3	1			1	1	1	2.00				
Jerusalem	Ludlow	J. G. Ward, W. C. Reynolds	W. S. Rushing	Edinburgh		61	23	3	4			1	1	1	2.00				
Mars Hill	Edinburgh	F. P. Sparks, J. D. Carroll	J. C. Foster	Edinburgh		92	30	3	4			1	1	1	2.00				
Mt. Carmel	High Hill	Gomillion, Thomas, Brantly	J. C. Foster	Edinburgh		85	21	2	4			22	22	22	2.00				
Mt. Zion	Carthage	Thomas Anderson	J. C. Foster	Edinburgh		28	15	4	3			4	4	4	2.00				
New Hope	Estes Mill	J. A. Langston, B. H. Estes	T. H. Davis	Paloma		64	22	4	4			4	4	4	2.00	10.00			
New Providence	Carthage	W. J. Miles, W. R. Eastwood	T. H. Davis	Paloma		38	23	3	3			4	4	4	2.00	9.55			
New Salem	Paloma	W. J. Phillips, J. K. Phillips	E. F. Dorrell	Paloma		36	6	1	2			4	4	4	2.00	8.30			
Old Rocky Point	Paloma	Gray, E. E. Barnes, C. Davis	W. P. Dorrell	Paloma	0.60	68	29	3	2			4	4	4	2.00	6.05	0.60		
Rocky Point	Carthage	James Davis, W. B. Rawson	J. W. Moore	Standing Pine		39	15	1	1			4	4	4	2.00	11.45	7.05	10.05	
Salem	Coosa	T. W. Moore, J. W. Mooney	E. T. Barnett	Standing Pine		45	15	4	11			2	2	2	2.00	11.45	7.05	10.05	
Stamp Bridge	Canton	J. R. Wales, W. J. Wallace	E. T. Barnett	Standing Pine		26	10	1	8			5	5	5	2.00	10.97	7.65	6.75	
Standing Pine	Standing Pine	E. T. Barnett, W. J. Barnett	E. T. Barnett	Standing Pine		84	29	3	5			1	1	1	2.00	10.97	7.65	6.75	
Thomastown	Thomastown	Yeager, Beckham, Blalock	E. T. Barnett	Standing Pine		49	35	41	49			63	63	63	2.00	10.97	7.65	6.75	
						\$7.85	1218	335							\$431.10	10357	\$31.20	\$9.80	\$2.50

NOTE: The letters show but two licentiates, Bro. Benjamin Houston, from Rocky Point church, and Bro. T. J. Burks, from Jerusalem church.

† W. S. Cockroft, Henry Collier, B. M. Langford. † J. H. Gannon, J. A. Thomas, R. H. Brantl
† J. F. Gray, † G. O. Yeager, S. D. Beckham, T. B. Blalock

U. S. Yeager, S. D. Beckman, F. D. Beckman

J. F. Gray

